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Passed! Protecting Children from Identity Theft Act Headed to Senate



This week, the House passed (420-1) the [Protecting Children from Identity Theft Act, H.R. 5192](#), a bipartisan bill I introduced

along with Reps. Carlos Curbelo (R-FL-26), Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ-9) and Kenny Marchant (R-TX-24).

Identity theft affects thousands, if not millions, of children and families a year. In a Chicago suburb, the Social Security Number (SSN) of a 13-year old was used by a fraudster to open a credit card with a plan to use it to pay for plastic surgery.

H.R. 5192 addresses this problem by directing the Social Security Administration to take a more proactive role in preventing identity theft by electronically confirming with trusted third parties whether or not a name, date of birth and SSN are affiliated.

I am glad this important legislation passed the House, and I now urge the Senate to take this up quickly so the President can sign it into law.

In case you missed it, I wrote an op-ed in Crain's Chicago Business with further details about "synthetic" identity fraud and how to combat it: <https://hultgren.house.gov/newsroom/in-the-news/op-ed-how-to-better-combat-identity-fraud>.

Balanced Budget Amendment Fails

On April 12, my colleagues in the House and I voted on a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution. This would have required the federal government to only spend as much as it takes in and live within its means just as the states, businesses and you and I do. While the majority of the House did approve the measure, I was disappointed that it did not meet the two-thirds threshold necessary to amend the Constitution. Thanks to Democrat obstruction, this vital step towards reigning in out-of-control government spending was thwarted.

Restraining spending requires tough choices, and it is our job to curb the excesses that have led to our \$21 trillion national debt. I will continue to fight for you and your families as a voice of fiscal responsibility in Washington as I have done since I entered Congress in 2011 when I introduced a bill which would prevent Congress from receiving pay if they do not pass a budget by the beginning of the fiscal year. Your taxpayer dollars should be

handled with the same care and discretion you use to handle your own personal finances.

My Take on... ...Speaker Ryan's Retirement

Recently, Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) announced he will not seek reelection after finishing out his term. Paul Ryan is a strong leader, a true conservative and a good friend. I have enjoyed sharing the Illinois-Wisconsin border with his district and observing his leadership in the House on behalf of his state and the country.

I thank him for his leadership in passing tax cuts for Americans and rebuilding our military, and I congratulate him on his accomplishments. I wish him and his family all the best.

As we consider next who will fill House leadership roles, I will be looking for leaders who can bring the Republican Conference together and also work across the aisle to tackle the challenges our nation faces. I look forward to hearing the ideas and plans of my fellow colleagues.

...the Passing of Barbara Bush



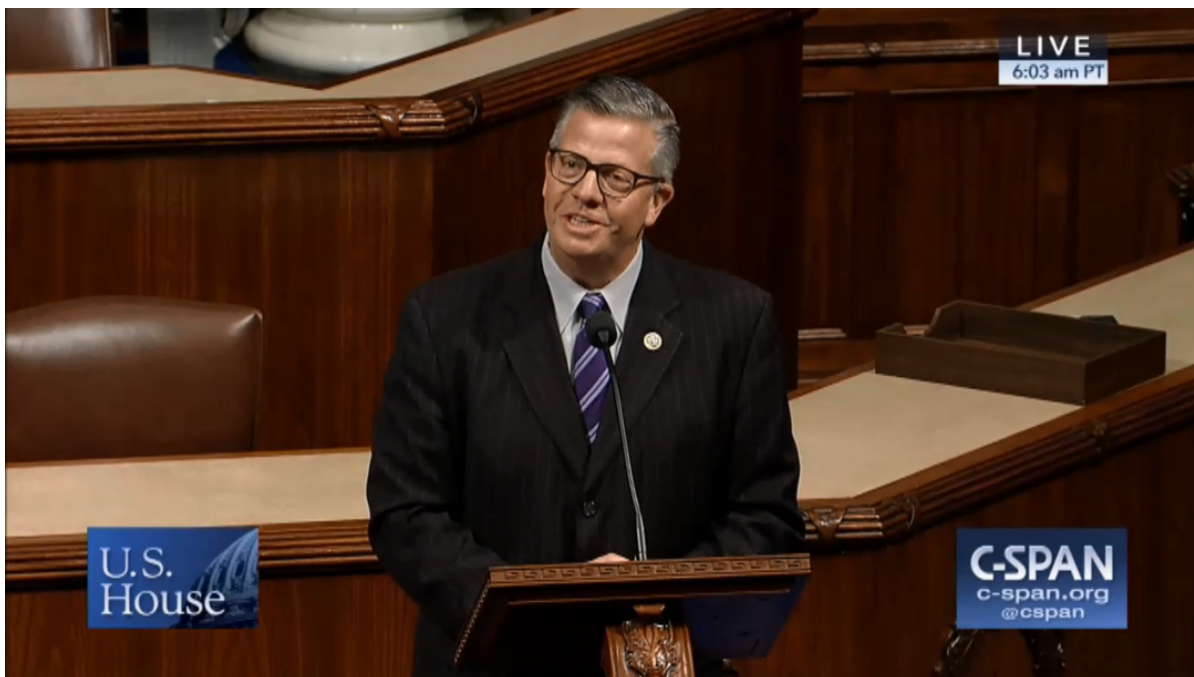
Barbara Bush was a beloved First Lady, a loving wife, mother and grandmother and a patriotic American. Her leadership in literacy and in the White House were an example to the nation.

Mrs. Bush was active in an era of bipartisanship when Americans from across the aisle worked together on common goals. Her guidance, grace and grit inspire us today as we seek common ground to tackle the nation's challenges.

The entire country mourns with the Bush family.

Ramble on, Ramblers!

I delivered a statement on the House floor congratulating the Loyola University Chicago Ramblers men's basketball team for reaching the NCAA Final Four and inspiring the nation.



(Click picture to watch video)

In Your Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy", written over a light blue background.

Randy Hultgren
Member of Congress
14th District, Illinois

Randy in the News

- [House approves Curbelo, Hultgren bill protecting children from synthetic identity theft](#) (Ripon Advance)
- [Hultgren, Kinzinger React to House Speaker Ryan Announcement to Not Seek Re-Election in 2019](#) (WSPY News)
- [Mulvaney Backs Turning CFPB Into Bipartisan Commission](#) (Wall Street Journal)
- [Pence to make space policy speech at Space Symposium](#) (Space News)
- [Rep. Randy Hultgren recognizes Loyola men's basketball team](#) (Northwest Herald)



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